

What is to be done? Are the Christian clergy, then, no longer to be the same element in our social life of a potent, appreciable weight? Half-scientific skeptics are inclined to tell us no, and to insist that their part in the world's history of progress is almost written to the end. "The force and effect of Christianity are to be found now," they say, "in the general spirit diffused through the Church, and outside of it. But the priest, *per se*, is a step behind as a helper of humanity; no longer a pioneer. To be the same pioneer or leader again, he must at least recognize his own changed position, and command followers, not by any factitious authority, imposed by hands or otherwise, but simply as a stronger, more efficient, more Christlike man in the world than they. The clergymen now exercising the most potent influence on the world are those who stand shoulder to shoulder on one level with their people, and magnify them by